

PATENT USSN: 09/901,339

Atty Dkt: 034044.031

AMENDMENT**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously presented) A method for diagnosing breast cancer, or a high risk of breast cancer, in a subject, comprising measuring basic fibroblast growth factor (bFGF) in a test sample of nipple fluid obtained from the subject, and comparing the level of bFGF in the test sample with samples from subjects not having breast cancer, wherein an increase in the level of bFGF in the test sample, as compared to samples from subjects not having breast cancer, indicates breast cancer or the high risk of breast cancer in the subject.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein bFGF in the sample is measured using anti-bFGF antibody.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the amount of bFGF in the sample of nipple fluid obtained from subjects not having breast cancer is less than 200 pg/ml.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of detecting at least one additional cancer marker.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said additional cancer marker is an angiogenic factor.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of administering a substance to enhance the flow of nipple fluid from the subject.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the substance is oxytocin.
- 8-14. (Canceled)

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15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of measuring bFGF in the test sample is performed by using a diagnostic kit comprising reagents to measure bFGF in the test sample.

16. (Canceled)